



**Town of Lexington**  
**Office of Community Development**  
**Health Division**  
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**Board of Health**

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**How to Remove Problem Wild Animals from your property.**

Occasionally, property owners may encounter wildlife on their property. In some instances, wildlife may cause damage by nesting, digging, burrowing or causing some other threat to your home or property. Service providers called ***Problem Animal Control Agents, (PACs)*** are available for hire to abate and remove the wildlife threat. PACs are licensed by the Massachusetts Division of Wildlife that you may hire to safely and legally remove the wildlife pest. They may also offer other services to hopefully prevent future problems with wildlife on your property.

***What is A Problem Animal Control (PAC) Agent?***

Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 131, Section 37, gives property owners the right to use lawful means to destroy wildlife in the act of causing damage or threatening personal safety. Landowners may only destroy wildlife actually causing damage or posing immediate threats. No one may randomly destroy wildlife simply because it is on their property. It is also illegal for anyone (including PAC agents) to live-trap a problem animal and move it for release on other public or private property.

If a property owner cannot resolve a wildlife problem on his or her own, the property owner may contract with a licensed Problem Animal Control Agent. PAC agents act on behalf of the landowner and are constrained by the same regulations regarding capture, release, transport and euthanasia (e.g. animals captured by PAC agents may not be relocated elsewhere). *Fees may be charged for PAC services.* When a property owner calls on a PAC agent, it is expected that the agent will also provide information and suggestions which prevent future wildlife problems. PAC licenses are issued to individuals, not to groups or companies. *Licensed Pac Agents* are the only individuals who may work with problem wildlife.

PAC agents may harass, take, and destroy, or may release or liberate on site as stipulated in 321 CMR 2.14 (23) non-domesticated reptiles, birds, and mammals the actions of which have or are endangering the life and health of humans or domestic animals; damaging the property of a person, obstructing the reasonable and comfortable use of property by the owner or tenant thereof or otherwise producing such material annoyance, inconvenience, and discomfort that can reasonably be presumed to result in damage or harm to persons or their property.

***What animals may a PAC Agent Handle?***

PAC agents may legally handle the following species: skunk, muskrat, raccoon, weasel, red fox, gray fox, porcupine, Norway rat, mice, voles, red, gray and flying squirrel, opossum, chipmunk, rabbit, woodchuck, snapping turtle, moles, pigeon, house sparrow, starling and certain species of bats. Coyotes may be handled only by licensed PAC agents who have successfully completed a Mass Wildlife training and certification program specifically pertaining to coyotes. PAC agents must also follow certain reporting requirements after taking or attempting to take a coyote. This provision became effective in 2008. Contact the Westborough office at (508) 389-6300 for more details. Beavers may also be removed, but notification and approval from the Lexington Health Division and Conservation Division may be required. No other animals may be captured or handled by licensed PAC agents.

Below, you will find a list of ***Problem Animal Control Specialist*** that are found nearby. This list is provided as a convenience to help you resolve your wildlife problem and the Town of Lexington Health Division does not recommend any particular vendor for this service.

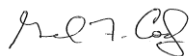
<b><i>PAC Organization</i></b>	<b><i>PAC Agents</i></b>	<b><i>Phone</i></b>	<b><i>Email</i></b>
Baystate Wildlife Control	Mark Thomas	781-830-6080	batremoval@baystatewildlife.com
Critter Control of Greater Boston	Benjamin Fowler Ed DeMichelle Daniel Master	617-640-4202	itsrobertcarter@gmail.com
Kerdy Pest Control	Scott Glennon	781-844-1727	kerdypestcontrol@verizon.net
***Mustoe Trapping Service	Pat Mustoe	781-354-4453	-
NW Pest Control	Stephen Pollert	781-891-5313	<i>Will call back</i>
Wildlife Control	John Petee III	781-221-7422	jdpbirddog@verizon.net

Note: The Lexington Board of Health does not recommend any particular Animal Control Specialist.

\*\*\* Do not offer service for removal of bats according to state testing for rabies

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this matter further, you may contact this office at (781) 698-4503 or by email at [gcody@lexingtonma.gov](mailto:gcody@lexingtonma.gov).

Sincerely,



Gerard F. Cody R.E.H.S. / R.S.

Health Director

cc: File  
BOH